

REMARKS

In view of the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application. This Response is believed to be fully responsive to all issues raised in the March 16, 2009 Office Action.

Claims 1, 10, 15, 37 and 46 are currently amended. The Abstract is currently amended. Claims 1-46 are pending.

Objections

At item 1, the Office objects to the Abstract, as needing to be from 50 to 100 words.

At item 2, the Office objects to claim 46 for its multiply dependent form.

Rejections under §112, ¶2

At item 3, the Office rejects claim 15 (and 16-22), stating that “the printed circuit board” has no antecedent basis.

At item 3, the Office rejects claim 37 (and 38-44), stating that “the printed circuit board” has no antecedent basis.

Rejections under §102(b)

At item 7, the Office rejects claims 1 and 2 as being anticipated by Hartel et al. US 6945757 (WO 02057125)

Rejections under §103(a)

At item 11, the Office rejects claims 3 and 4 as being unpatentable over Hartel et al. US 6945757 (WO 02057125)

At item 14, the Office rejects claims 5-9 as being unpatentable over Hartel et al. US 6945757 (WO 02057125) in view of Nestor US 5147229

At item 21, the Office rejects claims 10-12, 14, 32-34, 36 and 45 as being unpatentable over Woollenweber et al. US 5870894 in view of Hartel et al. US 6945757.

At item 27, the Office rejects claim 32 as being unpatentable over Woollenweber et al. US 5870894 in view of Hartel et al. US 6945757 and further in view of Woollenweber et al. US 5904471.

At item 32, the Office rejects claims 13, 15-26, 30, 31, 35 and 37-44 as being
5 unpatentable over Woollenweber et al. US 5870894 in view of Hartel et al. US 6945757 and further in view of Woollenweber et al. US 5904471.

At item 48, the Office rejects claims 27-29 as being unpatentable over Woollenweber et al. US 5870894 in view of Hartel et al. US 6945757 and further in view of Woollenweber et al. US 5904471 as applied to claim 23 and further in view
10 of Nestor US 5147229.

Hartel Reference: Eccentric Drive to Actuate Hydraulic Plunger Pumps

The Hartel reference is entitled "Motor pump unit: Particularly for a motor vehicle braking device". The Hartel reference describes a pump drive motor for an
15 antilock braking system (see, e.g., col. 3, lines 32-49). As shown in Fig. 1 of the Hartel reference, a motor housing 1 is attached to a pump housing 2, which is attached to an electronics housing 3. A supporting rib 6.1 and a fastening flange 6.2 are configured as a single injection-molded component that is placed in contact with the outer periphery of the motor housing 1 (col. 4, lines 13-29). For the motor,
20 supply and control lines 4.1, 4.2 pass through the pump housing 2 to the electronics housing 3 (col. 4, lines 35-39).

At col. 1, line 32, the Hartel reference cites EP 1038745 to describe a pump drive motor for a high pressure hydraulic antilock braking system. Such a drive motor has "an eccentric shaft portion 12c that actuates the plunger pumps 5 and 6
25 and, on the other end side" (Abstract of EP 1038745). Accordingly, the pump housing 2 of the Hartel reference houses plunger pumps, i.e., it is a "pump housing" that houses high pressure hydraulic pumps.

Woollenweber Reference (US 5870894): Compressor Wheel as a part of Motor

30 The Woollenweber reference ('894) describes a two part motor that relies on items such as magnets 36 attached to a compressor wheel 16 (see Fig. 1). Further,

the power supply connectors for the stator winding 42 of Fig. 1 are radially located, while those of Fig. 6 are axially located facing the center housing.

Response to Rejections

5 To expedite prosecution, currently amends independent claims 1 and 10.
Further, Applicant submits that evidence in the Hartel reference of an eccentric drive shaft for high pressure hydraulic plunger pumps does not disclose, teach or suggest the claimed compressor wheel, compressor housing or shaft supported in a turbocharger center housing. Yet further, the Woollenweber reference ('894)
10 describes a compressor wheel that includes motor components. Given the Hartel reference and the Woollenweber reference, individually or in combination, Applicant submits that one would not arrive at the claimed subject matter.

Claims 15, 37 and 46 are currently amended to address language objected to by the Office, Applicant appreciates the Office's attention and reconsideration of
15 these claims.

Independent Claim 1

As currently amended, claim 1 recites:

20 *Electric motor configured for accommodation by a turbocharger center housing and configured to drive a compressor wheel, accommodated in a compressor housing, via a shaft supported by a bearing in the turbocharger center housing, said electric motor being supplied with electric power through at least one motor plug connector, characterized in that*
25 *said motor plug connector is disposed on an axial side of said electric motor, facing said compressor housing.*

Applicant submits that the clarifying amendments to claim 1 make explicit configuration of the motor. Hence, Applicant respectfully requests that the Office's
30 position as to "intended use" and lack of "patentable weight" be withdrawn. Specifically, Applicant directs the Office to the shaft as a component logically related to the motor, the compressor wheel and the turbocharger center housing via the bearing.

As to the rejection under §102(b), Applicant finds insufficient evidence in the Hartel reference to disclose the subject matter of claim 1, as currently amended or as previously presented. Specifically, the Hartel reference discloses a pump housing that houses multiple high pressure hydraulic plunger pumps. There is no evidence of a compressor wheel. Applicant submits that evidence of a rotating eccentric shaft does not disclose, teach or suggest a compressor wheel connected to and driven by a shaft.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that claim 1 is not anticipated or obvious over the Hartel reference.

Independent Claim 10

Claim 10, as currently, amended recites:

Compressor housing for accommodating a compressor wheel drivable by an electric motor via a shaft connected to the compressor wheel, characterized in that said compressor housing comprises at least one main power plug connector connectable to an electric power source; and at least one housing plug connector electrically connected to a respective one of the at least one main power plug connector supplying said electric motor with electric power, wherein said housing plug connector is disposed on an axial side of said compressor housing, facing said electric motor.

As currently amended, claim 10 now recites that the compressor wheel is drivable by an electric motor via a shaft connected to the compressor wheel. Applicant contends that such an arrangement, in conjunction with the plug connector, is not taught or suggested by the

The Office rejected claims 10-12, 14, 32-34, 36 and 45 as being unpatentable over Woollenweber et al. US 5870894 in view of Hartel et al. US 6945757. As noted above, the Hartel reference fails to provide evidence related to a turbocharger. Instead, it describes an eccentric drive shaft that drives multiple high pressure hydraulic plunger pumps for an antilock braking system. Further, as noted above, the Woollenweber reference is directed to a motor that relies on a component or components attached to a compressor wheel.

Given the standards under §103, Applicant submits that one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to modify the compressor wheel-based motor of the Woollenweber reference with the plunger pump drive motor configuration of the Hartel reference and arrive at the subject matter of claim 10 or any of the other independent claims (claims 1, 23, 32 or 45).

Dependent Claims

Applicant submits that the pending dependent claims are patentable over the rejections that rely on the combination of the Hartel reference and the Woollenweber reference ('894) for at least the same reasons as their respective independent claims.

Given the clarifying amendments to claims 1 and 10 and the proper context of the eccentric drive and "pump housing" of the Hartel reference, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of all dependent claims.

Conclusion

Pending claims 1-46 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt issuance of the present application. Should any issue remain that prevents immediate issuance of the application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney to discuss the unresolved issue.

Respectfully Submitted,

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